

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please amend the claims as follows:**

1-30. (cancelled)

31. (new) A method comprising:

providing a vehicle defining a longitudinal direction substantially parallel to an intended direction of travel thereof, and comprising a cargo hold, containing a cargo having a weight, and a plurality of wheels, providing during travel the exclusive vertical support for the cargo hold;

positioning the vehicle on a bearing surface;

positioning a support to directly contact the cargo hold and remove from the plurality of wheels at least a portion of the weight of the cargo; and

unloading the cargo by rotating the bearing surface about an axis extending in the longitudinal direction.

32. (new) The method of claim 31, wherein the cargo hold comprises a frame and a door having an engaged position and an disengaged position with respect to the frame, the weight of the cargo exceeding the bearing capacity of the cargo hold when the door is the unengaged position.

33. (new) The method of claim 32, wherein the frame comprises an upper frame member and a lower frame member, the door having an upper edge hingedly attached to the upper frame member and a lower edge selectively engaging the lower frame member to stiffen the cargo hold.

34. (new) The method of claim 33, wherein positioning a support further comprises exerting an upward force on the lower frame member.

35. (new) The method of claim 34, further comprising transitioning from the disengaged position to the engaged position by translating the door vertically upward to move the lower edge thereof into engagement with the lower frame member

36. (new) The method of claim 35, wherein the vehicle has a proximal end and a distal end spaced apart in the longitudinal direction and further comprises:

a first lifting mechanism positioned proximate the proximal end to engage the door and selectively exert an upward force thereon; and

a second lifting mechanism positioned proximate the distal end to engage the door and selectively exert an upward force thereon.

37. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein transitioning from the disengaged position to the engaged position is accomplished under the impetus of the first and second lifting mechanisms.

38. (new) The method of claim 37, further comprising anchoring the vehicle to the bearing surface.

39. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein rotating the bearing surface further comprises rotating the bearing surface relative to a base supporting the bearing surface.

40. (new) The method of claim 31, further comprising anchoring the vehicle to the bearing surface.

41. (new) A method comprising:

providing a vehicle comprising a cargo hold, containing a cargo, and a plurality of wheels,

providing during travel the exclusive vertical support for the cargo hold;

positioning the vehicle on a bearing surface;

positioning a support to directly contact the cargo hold and resist deflection of the cargo hold toward the bearing surface; and

unloading the cargo by rotating the bearing surface.

42. (new) The method of claim 41, further comprising anchoring the vehicle to the bearing surface.

43. (new) The method of claim 42, wherein the vehicle defines a longitudinal direction substantially parallel to an intended direction of travel thereof.

44. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein the cargo hold comprises a floor, a front wall, a back wall, a first side wall, and a second side wall.

45. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the first side wall comprises a door pivoting with respect to the vehicle about an axis extending in the longitudinal direction.

46. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein the door extends substantially the length of the first side wall.

47. (new) The method of claim 46, wherein unloading the cargo comprises opening the door and rotating the bearing surface about an axis extending in the longitudinal direction.

48. (new) The method of claim 47, wherein unloading further comprises applying a vibration to the cargo hold through the support.

49. (new) The method of claim 41, wherein:  
the vehicle defines a longitudinal direction substantially parallel to an intended direction of travel thereof; and  
unloading comprises rotating the bearing surface about an axis extending in the longitudinal direction.

50. (new) A method comprising:

providing a vehicle defining a longitudinal direction substantially parallel to an intended direction of travel thereof, the vehicle comprising a cargo hold, containing a cargo having a weight, and a plurality of wheels, providing during travel the exclusive vertical supporting for the cargo hold;

positioning the vehicle on a bearing surface;

anchoring the vehicle to the bearing surface.

positioning a support to directly contact the cargo hold and remove from the plurality of wheels at least a portion of the weight of the cargo; and

unloading the cargo by rotating the bearing surface about an axis extending in the longitudinal direction.

51. (new) The method of claim 50, wherein unloading further comprises applying through the support a vibration to the cargo hold.